Application No.: 10/691,117 Confirmation No.: 5330 Filed: October 21, 2003

For: SULFONATED STYRENE COPOLYMERS FOR MEDICAL USES

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the aboveidentified application:

1-14. (Canceled)

- 15. **(Currently Amended)** A method for controlling biological organisms on a porous surface, said method comprising forming a water-insoluble coating comprising at least one salt of a polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel on the porous surface to form an article having a coated, porous surface, said porous surface is an article being selected from the group consisting of a garment, a gas filter, a laboratory work surface, a laboratory wipe, and a wound dressing.
- 16. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 15, wherein forming a coating comprises coating the porous surface with the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel in acid form and converting the acid form of the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel to the salt form.
- 17. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 15, wherein the salt of the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel is an ammonium salt.

18-29. (Canceled)

- 30. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 15, wherein the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel is a sulfonated styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene triblock copolymer.
- 31. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 15, wherein the coating additionally comprises a tetracycline.

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32. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 31, wherein the tetracycline is doxycycline.

33. (Canceled)

- 34. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 15, wherein the wound dressing comprises a substrate selected from the group consisting of a foam, a woven fabric, a knit fabric, and a nonwoven fabric.
- 35. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 15, wherein the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel comprises a polysulfonated poly(styrene-alkylene) polymer wherein alkylene segments of the polymer are an unsaturated hydrocarbon residue.
- 36. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 35, wherein the unsaturated hydrocarbon residue adjoins styrene segments of the polysulfonated poly(styrene-alkylene) polymer.
- 37. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 35, wherein the unsaturated hydrocarbon residue comprises repeat units selected from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, isopropylene, butylene, isobutylene, hexylene, and combinations thereof.
- 38. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 15, wherein the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel is blended with at least one non-sulfonated polymer.
- 39. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling biological organisms on a porous surface, said method comprising forming a water-insoluble coating comprising at least one salt of a polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel on the porous surface to form an article having a coated, porous surface, said article porous surface-comprising paper, fabric, or a combination thereof.

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40. **(Currently Amended)** A method for controlling biological organisms on a porous surface, the method comprising forming a water-insoluble coating on the porous surface to form an article having a coated, porous surface, wherein the water-insoluble coating comprises at least one salt of a polysulfonated hydrogel that is not chemically crosslinked.

- 41. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 40 wherein the porous surface is an article is selected from the group consisting of a garment, a gas filter, a laboratory work surface, a laboratory wipe, and a wound dressing.
- 42. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 40 wherein the <u>article porous surface</u> comprises paper, fabric, or a combination thereof.
- 43. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 40 wherein forming a coating comprises coating the porous surface with the polysulfonated hydrogel in acid form and converting the acid form of the polysulfonated hydrogel to the salt form.
- 44. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 40 wherein the coating additionally comprises a tetracycline.
- 45. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 40 wherein the polysulfonated hydrogel comprises a polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel.
- 46. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 45 wherein forming a coating comprises coating the porous surface with the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel in acid form and converting the acid form of the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel to the salt form.
- 47. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 45 wherein the coating additionally comprises a tetracycline.

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48. **(Currently Amended)** A method for controlling biological organisms on a porous surface, the method comprising forming a water-insoluble coating on the porous surface to form an article having a coated, porous surface, the water insoluble coating comprising at least one salt of at least one polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel blended with at least one non-sulfonated polymer, wherein the porous surface is an article is selected from the group consisting of a garment, a gas filter, a laboratory work surface, a laboratory wipe, and a wound dressing.